

News Release

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PEANUT GROWERS APPROVE POUNDAGE QUOTAS

WASHINGTON, December 17, 1997 -- Preliminary results of a referendum held December 1-4 show that peanut producers have approved poundage quotas for the 1998 through 2002 crops, according to Keith Kelly, Administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency.

Of 8,679 votes cast, 8,227, or 94.8 percent, were in favor of quotas for the next five crop years, Kelly said. Two-thirds of the voting producers must favor continuing poundage quotas for quotas to be in effect.

In a 1995 referendum, 97.0 percent of voters favored quotas, Kelly said

Figures by state follow.

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Preliminary Results of Dec. 1-4, 1997
Peanut Poundage Quota Referendum
for 1998 through 2002 Crop Years

Ballots Cast

State	Yes	No	Total	% Yes
Alabama	740	20	760	97.4
Arizona	1	1	2	50.0
Arkansas	43	0	43	100
California	4	0	4	100
Florida	461	17	478	96.4
Georgia	2199	59	2258	97.4
Louisiana	28	0	28	100
Mississippi	42	0	42	100
Missouri	4	0	4	100
New Mexico	39	5	44	88.6
North Carolina	1384	40	1424	97.2
Oklahoma	546	15	561	97.3
South Carolina	55	0	55	100
Tennessee	0	0	0	0
Texas	2078	269	2347	88.5
Virginia	603	26	629	95.9
Total	8227	452	8679	94.8

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